



May 6, 2019

Dear Students,

In the past, we have had all of the students read their summer reading books and write an essay in response to one of those books. This year, we are changing things up a bit. This year, when you return from your summer break, we want you to bring a five to seven minute audio podcast or movie interview of an elderly relative or family friend. As a school, we have decided to focus on senior citizens and their unique contributions to their family, community, or country. Everyone has a story to tell. Too often we are caught up in the rushed pace of living and we forget to listen. This will give you a chance to not only listen to an older family member or friend, but also to record his or her stories. There are several different resources that will help you get started. You need to have this small project completed for English class when you return from break. It will be due on the very first day of school next year. You will need to upload a link, rather than a movie clip or a podcast clip, to canvas. Please make sure your link is live so your teacher can access it. Story Corps has several examples of successful student interviews. You can get ideas and an APP to make your own recording by visiting their website at: <https://storycorps.org/>

The links below provide you with other resources that may help you with the interview process. If you are filming a video, please be mindful of what you are wearing. You may upload your podcast to soundcloud or storycorps. Videos will need to be uploaded to You Tube, and you will upload a link for your teacher. Remember to mark your video as “unlisted.” You may make a podcast or a video. Both formats will be awarded full points.

When your teachers are grading your piece, they will take the following elements into consideration: quality of sound, quality of questions, originality, interest level, enthusiasm of interviewer, and body language. Your podcast or video should have a point or purpose. Maybe there is a message your interviewee would like to communicate to the younger generation or to you. The central focus can be about many different things - living life, enjoying the outdoors,

cooking the perfect chocolate chip cookie, surviving an economic down turn, or working your way through college. The list is endless. Consider who your interviewee is as a person, and ask them to focus on a subject you believe would intrigue your peers. Ultimately, the audience for these podcasts or movie interviews is your peers.

<https://soundcloud.com/upload>

<https://www.desktop-documentaries.com/interviewing-tips.html>

<https://storycorps.org/participate/great-questions/>

<https://storycorps.org/participate/storycorps-app/>

Should you have any questions or concerns about this assignment, please contact Mrs. Elmeer at [stacey.elmeer@bvhs.org](mailto:stacey.elmeer@bvhs.org) as she will ultimately be archiving the podcasts and videos. We hope you enjoy your summer, and we hope you make a great product.

Sincerely,

The English Department at Bishop Verot Catholic High School